

LONG POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

P.O. BOX 160, Port Rowan, Ontario, Canada N0E 1M0 Tel: (519) 586-3531



RARITY REPORT

In order that any sight record or banding of a rare species can be accepted for the historical record, it must be properly documented. LPBO cooperators are therefore asked to complete a form in every case where a rarity is being claimed. Guidance as to which species are considered rare in the Long Point area may be obtained from the Migration Program Manager. Each observer should prepare his/her description independently and preferably before consulting any field guides or other literature. PLEASE PRINT.

Species claimed: Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*)

No. of birds: 1 Age: ? Sex: ♀

Date(s): 9.10.03 maybe 8.10.03

Place: Longpoint Tip Ontario

Time(s) of Observation: 9.10.03 : 9:00 - 9:20 8.10.03 9:00 - 9:02

Who first saw the bird(s): 1 or Genevieve when seen on 8.10.

Who first identified it: 1

Other observers (names and addresses): Christian Farris, Roz Ford, Benoit Gungloff, Genevieve Parrozziana

Any who disagree: No

Your previous experience with the species: 1 or from northern Germany where the species is extremely common year around on the coast. 3 or 4 million a year

Your previous experience with any closely similar species:

(a) Formerly: Never seen any other Eider species. Have seen all Scoter species.

(b) Same day: Surf Scoter

Species present for comparison: Long tailed Duck (only for size)

Which were beside it for comparison: — —

Distance from observer(s): 100 - 500 m

How measured: not measured

Optical aids used: 1 Leica 10x42 Leica 20-60x77

For "Waterbird" records only

Lake conditions: flat

Wave height:

Height of observer above lake: 3 m

Was observer's position sheltered: no

Weather conditions (at time of observation)

Visibility: little drizzle beginning ~ 500m

Cloud Cover: 0

Lighting: from back pretty good

Wind direction and speed: slow ?

Other relevant conditions:
(eg. rain, snow cover, etc.)

Weather system preceding the date of observation (if known): last known

Attach weather map clipping from local or national newspaper if relevant.

Associated movements of other species:

Was the bird trapped: No

Band # if banded:

Was it photographed:

If yes, by whom (name and address):

Specimen or parts preserved:

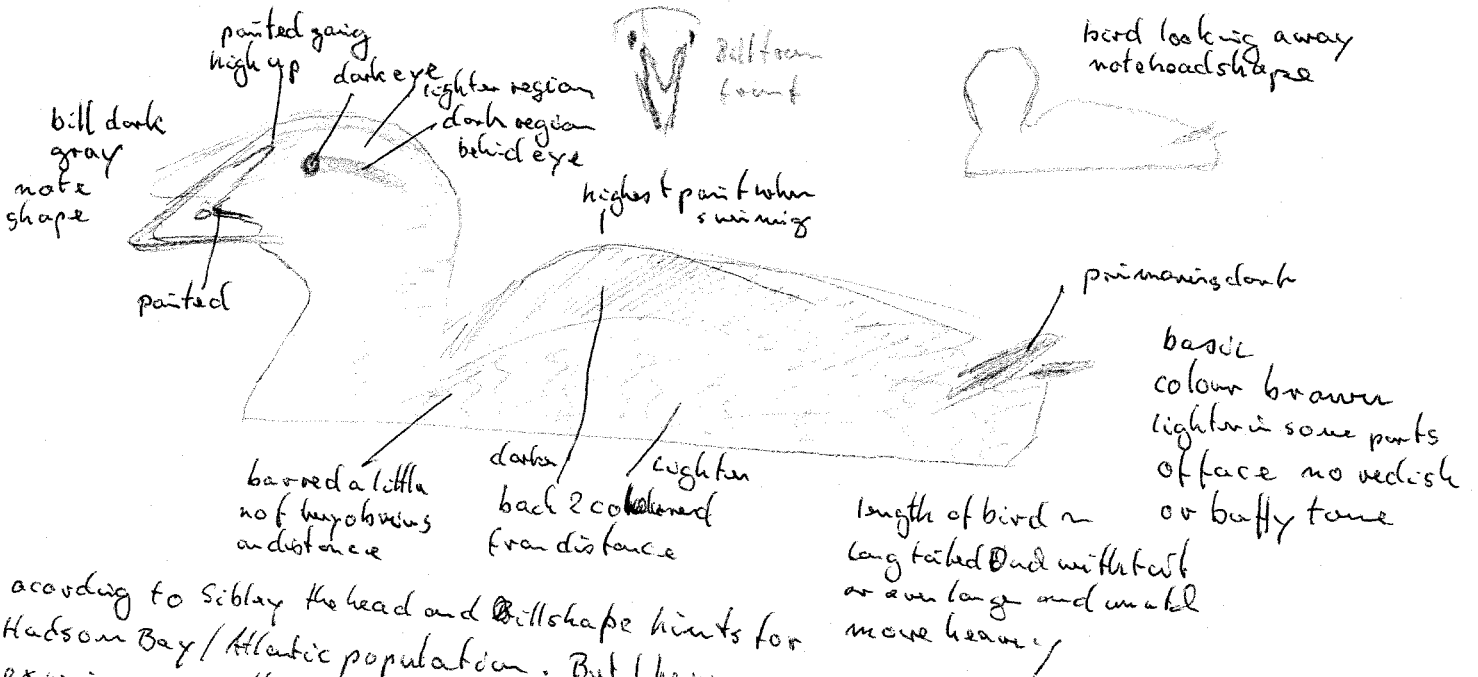
Present location:

Circumstances: On 8.10. Gussie and I saw a Duck swimming and diving close to the very tip of lag point in front of light quite far away. She asked me what the bird might be. I said it looks like a common Eider to me but they don't have that species here so probably White-winged / Surf Scoter. Did not go back to check that day for banding was very busy. Next day I saw a big Duck on Lencus swimming and diving ~ 200 m offshore on the north shore at the tip accompanied by a long tailed Duck. The bird looked very much like a common Eider to me so came back 10 m later with a scope and found the bird again without any problems, could observe the bird for ~ 15 min in good light + take cards. Told the other guys about the bird they saw it later swimming off the north shore a little further west.

Description:

Give separate description for (a) in the field (b) in the hand. Include full measurements and wing formula with hand descriptions.

Impression: Huge heavy Duck. Big head bill shape (upper bill) straight, highest point of back close to head shape of back there for ~ Loonish. Diving with wings a little bit open without jumping. No white in the wing when diving. Was laying on the side for cleaning feathers, one time I saw the left leg for a short time colour dark grey no band seen no white belly.



according to Sibley the head and bill shape hints for Hudson Bay / Atlantic population. But I have no experience on the variations. The bird looked much like those I see in northern Germany. The bird had absolutely no white in its plumage. Face expression proud, grumpy to dumb not friendly and cute as King Eider.

Mailing Address:

Felix Weiss @ Marc-Konstanz.de

Signed:

[Handwritten signature]

Finally, is this record 100% certain? (I'm sure 100% certain of anything. no)

Date: 11.10.2003

(b) afterwards: 5:00pm for 2 subspecies.

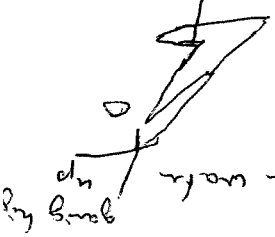
(a) at the time: No

Did you refer to any guides/other literature:

(Continue on extra sheet if required)

attached field drawings made with observations without IP book around.

post fec!
ear pinne ring Ecd



Scapula: No white in plumage dark feet bill structure different
ring Ecd: size bone plumage colour bill shape and structure

Athyra spa: Batarcan Athyran about 10% different wings open over water
and bill shape different.

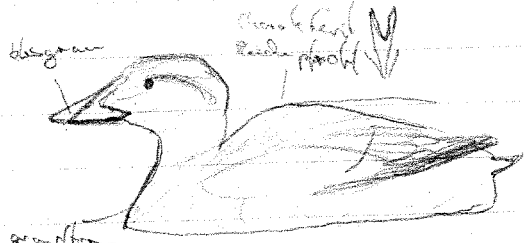
head shape schematic



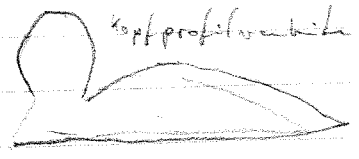
Clean: head shape between bill
Why not something else?

The head and bill shape of the bird in any characteristic. No rounded body/head. ~~reference~~

Common Eider *post. nat. exsante ad*



beigebraun
dunkelbraun



Füßgröße
Zandmel halb gestrichelt
Flügel klein

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Species claimed: Common Eider

No. of birds: one

Age: Adult

Sex: Female

Date(s): 9 October, 2003 to 15 October 2003

Place: Long Point, Tip

Time(s) of Observation: After 1000, early mornings, afternoons

Who first saw the bird(s): Felix Weiß, Christian Friis

Who first identified it: Felix, Weiß, Christian Friis

Other observers (names and addresses):

Roz Ford - LPBO, Genevieve Purugganan, Berndt Gangloff

Any who disagree: No

Your previous experience with the species: On the East Coast of Canada while attending Mt. Allison University in New Brunswick.

Your previous experience with any closely similar species:

(a) Formerly: No other Eider species, unfortunately, but most North American duck species.

(b) Same day: Scaup, Mergansers, Long-tailed Duck, Scaup species, Redhead, Mallard

Species present for comparison: Double-crested Cormorant, Ring-billed Gull

Which were beside it for comparison: None at the time

Distance from observer(s): 100 - 150 m

How measured: estimated

Optical aids used: Swift Anulaba 8.5 x 44 Binoculars; Leica 20-60x, 77mm. Telescope

Weather conditions (at time of observation)**For "Waterbird" records only**

Visibility: Good

Lake conditions: Calm, low wind

Cloud Cover: minimal

Lighting: Good

Wave height: less than one metre

Wind direction and speed: low winds

Height of observer above lake: at lake level

Other relevant conditions:
(eg. rain, snow cover, etc.)

Was observer's position sheltered: No

Weather system preceding the date of observation (if known):

Not known; post Isabel.

Attach weather map clipping from local or national newspaper if relevant.

Associated movements of other species: Good movement of ducks.

Was the bird trapped: No**Band # if banded:****Was it photographed:** No**If yes, by whom (name and address):****Specimen or parts preserved:** No**Present location:**

Circumstances: Felix and others had observed a strange duck on 8 October but couldn't locate it again to get a better view with a scope. While birding on 9 October, Felix found the bird again and identified it with his scope. I found the bird later in the morning and confirmed his observation, along with the others listed earlier. The bird hung around preening and showing itself off for much of the morning. The hung around for about a week off the tip of the point allowing good observation, and excellent views.

Description:

Give separate description for (a) in the field (b) in the hand. Include full measurements and wing formula with hand descriptions.

Field Description: large duck, prominent bill, sloping forehead, brown overall, without any distinct field marks.

Upper parts: mottled brown

Breast: paler mottled brown than upper parts and head.

Underparts: mottled brown

Head: Brown, dark, large bill, sloping forehead

From field sketch: paler supercilium
feathers extending to nares.



Bill: Large; sloping; Feathers extending to nares in u-like pattern; distinctive.

(Continue on extra sheet if required)

Did you refer to any guides/other literature:

(a) at the time: No

(b) afterwards: Yes, Sibley Guide to confirm age / sex.

Finally, is this record 100% certain? Certainly.

Signed:



Date:

11 October, 2003

(updated 16 October, 2003)

Mailing Address:

LPB0 PO Box 160 Port Rowan, ON, NOE 1M0

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Species claimed: Common Eider

No. of birds: 1

Age: Unknown

Sex: Female

Date(s): October 9th 2003

Place: Tip of Longpoint, Norfolk Co. Ont.

Time(s) of Observation: Around 10:00 am

Who first saw the bird(s): Felix Weiss

Who first identified it: Felix Weiss

Other observers (names and addresses): Christian Friis, GENEVIEVE Pungganun, Jessa Smith, Benoit Gangloff - P.O. Box 160

Any who disagree: NONE

46 LPBO
PORT ROWAN, ON.
N0E 1M0

Your previous experience with the species: 1000's observed on Bon Portage Island (ABO) Nova Scotia.

Your previous experience with any closely similar species:

- (a) Formerly: Observed many other duck sp. surf scoter, white winged scoter, scaup, mallard, black duck (Am.), Double crested cormorant, Mergansers
- (b) Same day: Common Mergansers, Ring billed $\frac{1}{2}$ Herring Gulls, Double crested cormorant Bonaparts Gulls

Species present for comparison:

Which were beside it for comparison: Double Crested cormorants, Ring billed $\frac{1}{2}$ Herring Gulls

Distance from observer(s): ~ 300 feet

How measured: eyeballed

Optical aids used: Leica, 20x60 77mm lens (both times)

Weather conditions (at time of observation)

For "Waterbird" records only

Visibility: Very Good

Lake conditions: Flat water

Cloud Cover: No clouds

Lighting: Bright, sunny day, a little hazy
compared to Oct. 14 (2nd sighting)

Wave height: N/A

Wind direction and speed: SW @ 1 Beaufort

Height of observer above lake: water level

Other relevant conditions:
(eg. rain, snow cover, etc.)

Was observer's position sheltered: NO

Weather system preceding the date of observation (if known):

Oct. 8th was a relatively nice day - but windy ^{winds} blowing from the South West @ a Beaufort force 2-4 all day.

Attach weather map clipping from local or national newspaper if relevant.

Associated movements of other species:

Was the bird trapped: NO

Band # if banded:

Was it photographed:

If yes, by whom (name and address):

Specimen or parts preserved:

Present location:

Circumstances: Felix spotted the bird a day before but was unable to locate it with a scope. The following day (Oct. 9 '03) he spotted it again & found it with a scope. The duck was sitting in the lake ~ 300 feet away from the shore, preening itself. Spinning itself in circles as it did.

Description:

Give separate description for (a) in the field (b) in the hand. Include full measurements and wing formula with hand descriptions.

Field description:

- average sized duck, brownish all over.
- slightly lighter brown coloration over the eye.
- Bill was large - sloping - smooth.
- ~~no~~ not markedly any other color but brown
- slopes from forehead, no real pronounced forehead because of this.

~~any~~ other birds in comparison (why it's not them).

KING EIDER

bill too small on King eider
bill prominently darker on King eider.
white spot @ base of bill on King eider

Spectacled Eider

lighter patch around eye in Spectacled Eider

CANVAS BACK

Back lighter color in Canvasback

White Winged Scoter

Scoter is black in color
Scoter has white patch on wing

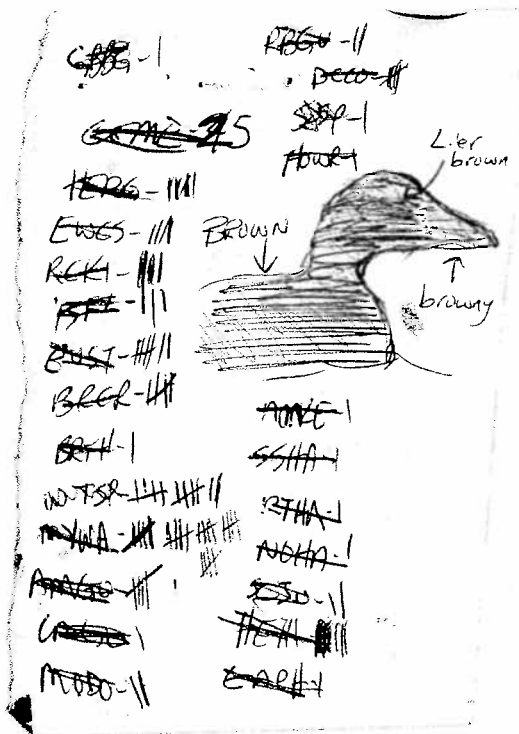
Surf scoter

Scoter is black in color
Scoter has distinct white markings on head.

Duck was preening itself & turning in circles while doing so. I saw the duck dive once very briefly & surface again very near to where it had dove.

observed again on October 14th - mid morning.

Lake was calm with small ripples - lighting was better today. Able to see clearly the paler supercilium. As well the high reaching nares & barring on it's sides. bird was still relatively far away



(Continue on extra sheet if required)

Did you refer to any guides/other literature:

(a) at the time:

(b) afterwards: Sibley guide to N. American Birds.

Finally, is this record 100% certain? YES

Signed:

Rosalind Ford
ROSALIND FORD

Date:

Oct. 11' 2003

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 160
46 LPBO
FORT ROWAN, ON.
NOE 1MO